



## Current VA Educational Benefit Programs



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# Basic Education Benefit Process

Submit an application for benefits via hard copy or electronically via VETS.gov

Receives VA determination of their eligibility and entitlement via Certificate of Eligibility (COE)

Submit an enrollment certification form to VA outlining their pursuit of training

Receives payment for their training either directly or to the school



# Education Benefit Programs

## Benefits for Veterans

- Chapter 30
- Chapter 33
- Chapter 1606

## Benefits for Dependents

- Chapter 35
- Chapter 33 TOE
- Fry Scholarship

# Chapter 30 Montgomery GI Bill® – Active Duty (MGIB-AD)

- If enlisted less than three years, service member must serve 24 continuous month. If more than three years, service member must serve at least 36 months (exceptions apply)
- Must have a qualifying period of honorable service
- Must not have declined GI Bill® in writing at initial entry



# Chapter 35 Dependents Education Assistance (DEA)

Available to the spouse, surviving spouse, or dependent child of a Veteran who:

- Is 100% Disabled as a result of a service-connected disability
- Died as 100% disabled as a result of a service-connected injury or while on active duty.
- Was held as a POW or was MIA for 90 days



# Chapter 1606 Montgomery GI Bill – Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR)

The Reservist must have:

- Served for six years
- A high school diploma or equivalent
- Completed Initial Active-Duty Training (IADT)





# Payments for Chapters 30, 35 & 1606 Monthly Rates

A benefit is paid to the student monthly based on the number of days certified.

- Full month – Full benefit
- Less than a month – Prorated based on a 30-day month





# Training Time for Chapters 30, 35 & 1606 (1 of 4)

## Clock Hours

Actual hours per week a student spends attending class or other instructional activities that count toward completing a program of study:

- Complete 18 clock hours per week if the predominant portion is spent in the classroom
- Complete 22 clock hours per week if the predominant instruction is more like shop practice

## Credit Hours

The number of credits a student receives for enrolling in, and successfully completing a given course:

- Students complete a certain number of credits to complete a program
- **Does not** directly reflect the total number of a student spends in class
- Reflect each course's workload





# Training Time for Chapters 30, 35 & 1606 (2 of 4)

## Classroom Theory:

- Clock Hour is a 60-minute time-frame
- 10 minutes to change classes each hour
- 10 minutes to change subjects if in the same classroom

## Shop Practice:

- Clock Hour is a 60-minute time-frame
- Two (2) 15-minute breaks (Morning & Afternoon)
- Shorter breaks allowed for part-time enrollment





# Training Time for Chapters 30, 35 & 1606 (3 of 4)

## Classroom Theory vs. Shop Practice

| CLASSROOM THEORY                     |                                  | SHOP PRACTICE                        |                                  |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Clock hours net instruction per week | Training Time                    | Clock hours net instruction per week | Training Time                    |
| 18+                                  | Full-time                        | 22+                                  | Full-time                        |
| 13 – 17                              | ¾-time                           | 16 – 21                              | ¾-time                           |
| 09 – 12                              | ½-time                           | 11 – 15                              | ½-time                           |
| 05 – 08                              | Less than half; more than ¼-time | 06 – 10                              | Less than half; more than ¼-time |
| 01 – 04                              | ¼-time                           | 01 – 05                              | ¼-time                           |



# Training Time for Chapters 30, 35 & 1606 (4 of 4)

Benefits are paid based on training time

For undergraduates in a standard Quarter or Semester, training time is as follows:

- 12 credits – Fulltime
- 9-11 credits –  $\frac{3}{4}$ -time
- 6-8 credits –  $\frac{1}{2}$ -time
- 4-5 credits – less than  $\frac{1}{2}$ -time
- 1-3 credits –  $\frac{1}{4}$ -time or less



## Chapter 33 Post-9/11 GI Bill® (1 of 3)

The individuals on active duty after 9/10/01 must have:

- Served a minimum of 90 aggregate days
- Served a period of at least 30 days and received a disability discharge





## Chapter 33 Post-9/11 GI Bill (2 of 3)

### Benefit payout is based on length of service requirements

- 100%:** At least 36 months
- 90%:** At least 30 months, but less than 36 months
- 80%:** At least 24 months, but less than 30 months
- 70%:** At least 18 months, but less than 24 months
- 60%:** At least 6 months, but less than 18 months
- 50%:** At least 90 days, but less than 6 months





# Chapter 33 Post-9/11 GI Bill® (3 of 3)

## Chapter 33

- Transfer of Entitlement
- Fry Scholarship
- Yellow Ribbon
- Tuition and Fees
- Monthly Housing Allowance

# Chapter 33 Transfer of Entitlement (TOE) Program

An approved individual may transfer unused entitlement to any combination of spouse and dependents

The family member must be enrolled in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System (DEERS)



# The Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship

Children and spouses of service members who died in the line of duty while on active duty after September 10, 2001

Eligible for up to 36 months under the Post-9/11 GI Bill® at the 100% benefit level







# Post-9/11, MGIB-AD, MGIB-SR, & DEA Entitlement Information

## Post-9/11, MGIB-AD, MGIB-SR

- Eligible students can receive up to 36 months of full-time benefits under one program
- Students eligible under 2+ benefits may have up to 48 months

## DEA

36 months of regular benefits plus an additional five months of remedial training benefits

## Exceptions

If a veteran elects Post-9/11 GI Bill® and still has eligibility under MGIB, they'll receive the amount of entitlement remaining under MGIB



## Payments for Chapter 33

- Tuition & fees are paid directly to the school
- A Housing Allowance is paid to the student monthly
- A books & supplies stipend is paid to the student at the beginning of the term
- Yellow Ribbon payments are paid directly to the school





## Chapter 33 Tuition and Fees (1 of 2)

- **U.S. Public Schools:** The actual net cost for in-state tuition and fees after the application of any waiver, scholarship, aid, or assistance
- **Private and Foreign Schools:** The actual net cost for tuition and fees after the application of any waiver, or scholarship or the annual cap





## Chapter 33 Tuition and Fees (2 of 2)

If there's **one** exception, the charge isn't mandatory and therefore not reimbursable

### Example of a mandatory fee:

- A parking fee assessed to all students
- A specific kit or book purchased in full from your facility without exception

### Example of a non-mandatory fee:

- Parking fee assessed to only students with cars
- A kit or book purchased from a 3rd party and given credit for the purchase



# Chapter 33 Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA)

## Housing Allowance Rules:

- Students must attend school more than half-time
- Payment is prorated by rate of pursuit rounded to nearest tenth
- Distance learners receive  $\frac{1}{2}$  the national average monthly housing





# Rate of Pursuit - Housing

- Rate of Pursuit (RoP) is determined by VA
- ROP is calculated by dividing the number of credit hours taken by the number of credits considered to be full time

## Example:

If full-time is 12 credits, then rate of pursuit for:

- Six credits (or credit equivalents) is 50% ( $6/12=50\%$ )
- Seven credits (or credit equivalents) is 58% ( $7/12=58\%$ ) rounded up to 60%





## Chapter 33 Books & Supplies Stipend

Up to \$1,000 per academic year:

- Lump sum for IHL schools paid to the student
- Monthly payments for NCD only schools
- Prorated based on benefit level





## Chapter 33 Yellow Ribbon Program

Yellow Ribbon Program payment is paid directly to the school on behalf of the student to help pay some/all unmet charges at IHLs

The school enters into an agreement with VA to contribute up to 50% of expenses and VA will match



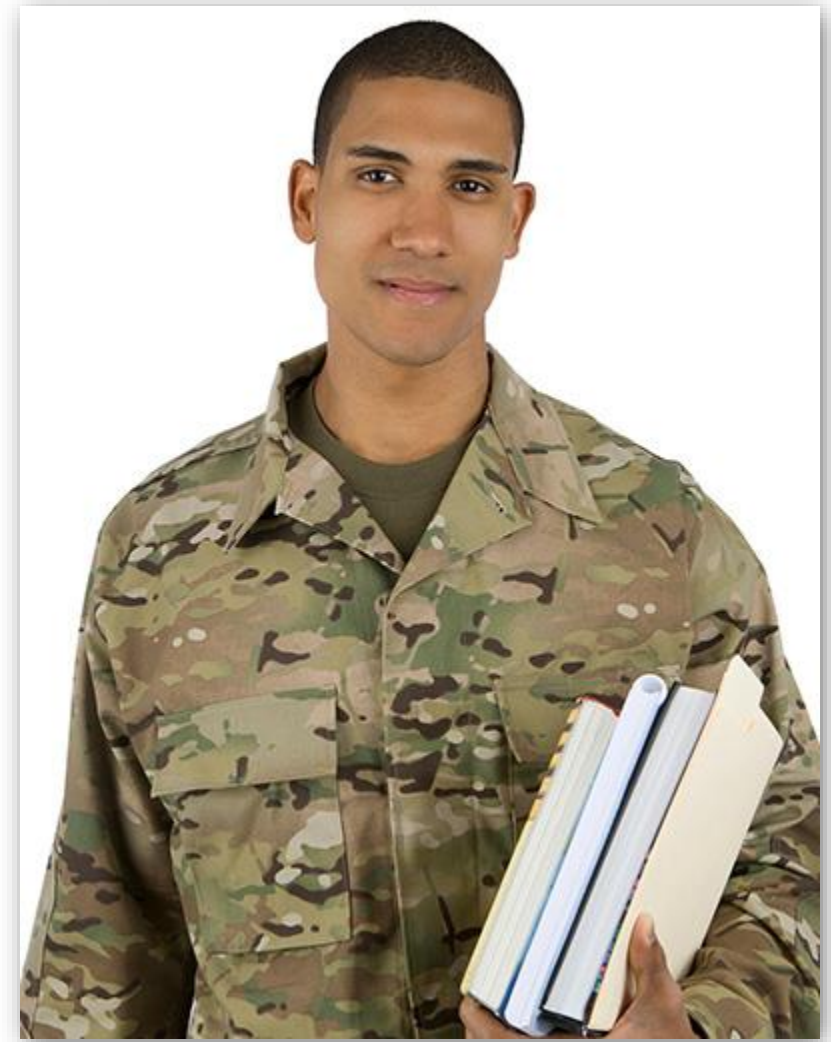




# Tuition Assistance (TA)

Tuition Assistance (TA) is a Department of Defense (DoD) program that **is not** administered by VA

TA rules vary by branch of service and even between components within the branches. (i.e. the service member is Active Duty, Reserve, or National Guard)





# Tuition Assistance Top Up (TATU)

- The law prohibits Active-Duty students from receiving education benefits and TA for the same course
- Active-Duty recipients of Chapter 30, however, are eligible for Top-Up as it allows VA to pay the difference between what TA pays and the cost of the course
- Students must be certified with the Federal and/or state TA deducted from the charges before certifying tuition and fees to VA





# Comparison

Each individual's circumstances are unique, and their benefits should be assessed on a case-by-case basis

**Remember:** Benefit elections of one benefit rather than another are irrevocable

**Note:** Do NOT counsel your students. Refer them to the VA website or to the Education Call Center for assistance





## Section Review

Training time used to determine benefits for both classroom theory and shop practice is 70 min:

- True
- False



## Section Review

Training time used to determine benefits for both classroom theory and shop practice is 70 min:

- True
- False**



## Section Review

What payment programs fall under Chapter 33? (Select all that apply)

- A. Transfer of Entitlement (TOE)
- B. Fry Scholarship
- C. Monthly Housing Allowance
- D. Dependents Education Assistance
- E. Tuition and Fees



# Section Review

What payment programs fall under Chapter 33? (Select all that apply)

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- B. Fry Scholarship**
- C. Monthly Housing Allowance**
- D. Dependents Education Assistance**
- E. Tuition and Fees**



# Thank You For Your Time Folks!

**Your role is so much more important than you know.....**

**As I've always said, YOU are the first line of Offense on behalf of  
Veterans Affairs!**

**Your enthusiasm, zeal, and dedication to those you serve is truly  
extraordinary and admirable!**

**Semper Fidelis!**

**Brendan Fitzgerald: National Training Team - Schools**